

Maine Charter School Commission

Public Charter School Monitoring Plan

Approved 12-4-12
Correction of Dates to be Compliant with MRS-20A 4-23-14
Recommended update for all schools 1/2016

1. Complaints Received by the Charter School:

- a. The School shall adopt and maintain a policy regarding the receipt and resolution of public concerns and complaints. The School shall keep records of complaints received and their resolution and shall make those records available to the Commission annually.

2. Academic Proficiency, including Readiness for Postsecondary Enrollment:

- a. Within 3 months of the start of the first school year ("Year One"), the School will provide the Commission with a protocol for fulfilling its assessment plan (formative and summative) as listed in the Charter Application.

Target date: January 15

- b. At the end of Year One, the School will provide a statistical summary of student scores in accordance with the appropriate MEDMS template.

Target date: June 30

- c. Prior to the start of Year Two, the School will provide its plan for improving or maintaining student academic growth, based on its data from Year One.

Target date: September 1

- d. In Years Two through Five, at mid-year and end-of-year, the Commission will be provided copies of reports used by the School to track student academic growth.

At least once a year, the School will meet with the Commission's Executive Director to review these data reports and the annual plan to monitor and reach the academic targets for years 3, 4 and 5.

(For more specific areas, refer to Performance Indicators.)

Target dates: January 15 and June 30

3. Special Education Compliance Review

- a. The School will provide the Commission notification of a due process complaint or a request for due process hearing **within five business days** of receiving the complaint or request. The Commission will monitor the School's response and any subsequent plan for correction of noncompliance.

- b. The Commission will review annually the agreement between the School and MDOE and/or an SAU or other approved provider for special education services to the school. **Target date: June 30**

4. Student Attendance and Enrollment

- a. The Commission will receive simultaneous copies of student enrollment reports provided to sending SAUs in accordance with state reporting guidelines. Within **30 calendar days** of receipt of said reports, the Commission will review the status with the chief executive of the school and/or the Chair of the governing board.

Target dates:

- **Prior to the opening of school** (August 1 to SAUs and MCSC for Payment September 1 and December 1);
- **October 1**- Dept. of Education EPS Report (see instructions DOE);
- **February 1** to SAUs and MCSC (for March 1 and June 1 Payments) **and**
- **April 1** -Dept. of Education EPS Report (see instructions DOE).

- b. The Commission will receive an annual attendance report from the School, and the Commission will provide a report back to the School subsequent to its review.

Target date: June 30.

5. Social and Academic Climate, including Academic Discipline

- a. The Commission will receive copies of the academic disciplinary reports required under federal and state statutes on the required filing dates.
- b. Copies of any expulsion records will be provided to the Commission **within ten business days** of any action taken by the governing board.
- c. Commission members may meet with a representative group of parents, staff, and students for the purposes of receiving feedback.

Target date: At the annual on-site review

6. Parent and Community Engagement

- a. Within three months of the start of Year One, the School will provide the Commission with a plan for parent engagement and conferences.

Target date: December 1.

- b. Annually, the School will provide a copy of its current parent-student handbook and related policies, highlighting any changes from that approved in the charter contract.

Target date: September 1.

- c. Commission members will meet annually with a representative group of parents, community members and/or volunteers for the purposes of receiving feedback on the school's community engagement plan.

Target date: At the annual on-site review (See section 9 below.)

7. Transportation Contract, Food Service, Facilities Maintenance and Performance Record.

- a. Provide an annual report on performance based on the respective plans as approved in contract.

Target date: 2 weeks before the date of the annual end-of-year visit

- b. If necessary, the School and the Commission may re-open any relevant contract provision related to transportation, food service or facility maintenance based on the first annual review.

Target date: June 30

8. Financial Reports

- a. The School will ensure that monthly and quarterly financial reports are created and distributed to the governing board. The School will provide **quarterly reports** to the Commission with the evidence that the Governing Board has reviewed them in compliance with standard auditing practices.

Target dates: October 15, January 15, April 15 and July 15

- b. Quarterly financial statements will include revenues and expenses in accordance with state accounting reporting system.

- c. The School will complete an annual audit in accordance with standard auditing practices for public schools for the State of Maine Commissioner of the Department of Education.

Target dates:

- **November 1 (on or before) Initial (Audit) Report** to the (DOE) Commissioner. MRS 20-A § 2412-A Audits #4
- **December 30 (on or before) Audit Report (complete)** to the (DOE) Commissioner within 6 months after the end of an audit period. MRS 20-A § 2412-A Audits #6

- c. The school will provide a revised annual financial plan, based on known and projected enrollments, including anticipated grant, foundation and fundraising revenues.

Target date: September 1

9. Governance Reports

- a. Once a year the chair of the governing board and the chief school executive will have an on-site visit and meeting with the Commission to discuss the role of the board in exercise of its oversight responsibilities to the school and its students and families.

Target date: At the annual on-site review

10. Standards and Processes for Revocation of a Contract

- a. If at any time the Commission determines, as the result of receiving a complaint or on its own review of the information obtained through the monitoring process, that it has significant concerns regarding the School's failure to comply with the terms of the Charter or governing law, or failure to meet any projected targets in one or more of the performance areas required by the Charter, the Commission will deliver a notice to the governing board of the School. Such notice shall identify the specific concerns, stating that the concerns represent potential violations of law or the Charter that could lead to sanctions by the Commission up to and including revocation of the Charter. The Commission shall require a written response, including a plan for timely remediation within **thirty calendar days** of receipt of the notice by the School.
- b. No later than **ten business days** after receipt of the School's written response, the Commission will schedule an interview and public hearing to discuss the concerns identified by the Commission and the response as filed by the School.
- c. For no less than **five business days** after the interview and hearing, the Commission will receive any further written comments from the School and/or the public.
- d. After the additional response/comment period described above, the Commission will have **thirty business days** to issue a letter of findings including either 1) conditions for the continued operation of the School including timelines for required remediation, or 2) the time and date under which the school is ordered to begin implementation of the Closure Plan. Subsequent failure on the part of the School to comply with the conditions and timelines for continued operation without seeking additional assistance or relief from the Commission will result in notice of the time and date under which the School is ordered to begin implementation of the Closure Plan.

11. Emergency Closure

- a. The Commission may order an emergency closure of the school upon a finding that the health, welfare or safety of pupils enrolled is at imminent risk.